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1944

Servicemen's Edition



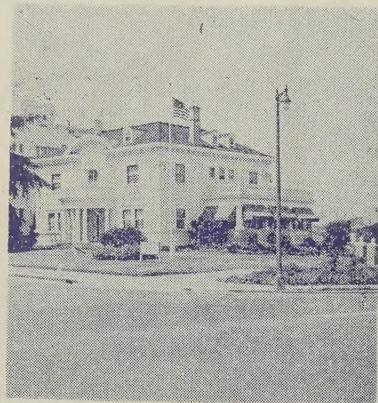
Glad Tidings

December
Vol. XIX

1944
No. 12

The CHRISTIAN HOME

108 Lake Street, Oakland, California



Near the
Lake

Board of Directors of Victory Service Center, Inc.



Back Row (left to right)—C. F. Ferguson, T. C. Sibert, E. Wm. Anderson.
Middle Row—Irving Ford, Robert Carrington, Mrs. Eleanor Johnson, R. A. Wilson, C. E. Persing.
Front Row—R. H. Moon, Harry Jaeger, W. T. Gaston, R. J. Thurmond.

What . . .

G. I. Joe Needs Most

by HARRY A. JAEGER
Director of Servicemen's Department

For thirty years Assemblies of God churches all over the country have launched innumerable efforts to evangelize the youth of America. In 1941 our evangelistic program had reached a high point and we were contacting more young people than ever in the history of our ministry. Then America's Selective Service System began to drain young men from every community. As this Selective Service program went into operation and the war progressed on world-wide battlefronts, Uncle Sam began to make every possible provision for the physical and military welfare of these men in their training program. The best military equipment was provided, irrespective of cost or difficulty in obtaining this material. Inconvenience to civilian population was disregarded. From rural communities and large cities, industrialists, doctors, dentists, lawyers, and businessmen were recruited or drafted to assist in the tremendous program of equipping and maintaining an army of twelve million men.

During the last war seven per cent of all the men who were wounded in action died. Our government was determined that in this war such figures should not exist and as the result of intensive medical training little more than two per cent of our wounded have been lost. Every G.I. is trained in the emergency use of sulpha drugs, tourniquets, and many elementary methods of first aid. So thorough has been this training that our men are safer on the battlefronts than on the streets of principal cities. More people have been wounded and killed in civilian activities in the past year than our total war casualty list over the same period of time. Of 4,039 army, navy, and marine casualties treated aboard one Naval Hospital ship, only seven deaths occurred. Of 227 men suffering penetrating chest wounds on Guadalcanal, only two died. These astounding figures are the result of an efficient organization determined to bring your son back alive. Such a record has been accomplished only through intensive sacrifice, inconvenience, and hard work; but it has been done.

While your men have been taken care of physically, while their health has been guarded, and they have been supplied with the very best of the material of war, there is another all-important need which in many cases has been overlooked.

Realizing that something must be done for the spiritual equipment of America's fighting men, the General Council took action in the fall of 1941, authorizing the publication of a servicemen's bulletin. Within a month Myer Pearlman had copy ready for the first issue of *Reveille*. During the ensuing two years the popularity of *Reveille* mounted rapidly. This, together with the growing need of servicemen's work, resulted in a further step by General Council officials, and on January 5, 1944, the Servicemen's Department was organized to carry out a four-point program: (1) to establish a directory of men and women in the armed forces from the family circles of our Assemblies of God homes, offering direct spiritual aid through letters, literature, and contact with field workers or pastors; (2) to advance the circulation of *Reveille* and the *Christ's Ambassadors Herald* among military personnel; (3) to sponsor evangelists and workers to minister directly in the camps; (4) to establish Christian service centers in strategic locations. In brief, to serve in every way possible the spiritual needs of those of the armed forces.

Through hard work and lots of prayer, the operations of the department were set in motion. Day and night saw the increase in production of literature, contacts made with the men, service centers established, and meetings held in camps the nation over. Finally workers were sent to Alaska and Mexico; others plan to go overseas. Today our servicemen's enterprise represents a tremendous soul-saving ministry. Bridging the gap between the G.I. and the local church, the Servicemen's Department is prepared to reach the man in service, bring him to Christ, then follow him as long as he is working for Uncle Sam, so that he will return to his home town grounded in



the Lord to take up his responsibilities of service.

The functions of the Servicemen's Department present an almost unbelievable open door of evangelism to the masses of America's youth. Every 24 hours an average of 18,133 copies of *Reveille* are being distributed on 57 fighting fronts and are being read by an estimated 54,399 men. Every 24 hours 970 G.I.'s answer mail call to receive a letter from the Servicemen's Department, our aggregate figures reveal. Many of them have never heard of the Servicemen's Department before, but their returning letters read:

"Your letters are very encouraging and I enjoy them. I have just read it out loud to the boys and *Reveille* is going from tent to tent now. I know that they all enjoy it."

"I had the privilege of receiving your letter and your paper named *Reveille*, and it surely set my mind working. I didn't go to church much, but since I received your letter there seems to be a longing, something I should have done long ago. In the future my plans are to go to Sunday service over here in a combat zone in the Pacific."

"The *Reveille* affords a pleasure to me that no other gospel literature (except the Bible) can afford to a soldier. Not only I, but many other men enjoy my copy of *Reveille*."

"Your letters and *Reveille* remind me a lot of what my mother told me when I was just a kid. I couldn't believe her, but now I know she was telling the truth, and I can see that it is best to believe in God."

With *Reveille* Number 12, this service bulletin has had a circulation of 9,350,000 copies. Three editions have been prepared for the British forces. The

second edition in Spanish is now in the process of preparation. To print one issue of *Reveille* it requires more than 15 tons of paper, hundreds of pounds of ink, and high-speed presses operating 24 hours a day for 90 days. To mail just one edition to our servicemen around the world, the postage amounts to \$2,805.

Since January 5, the Servicemen's Department has organized a system of 30 Christian service centers; 24 scattered throughout the United States, 4 operating in England, one in India, and one in Honolulu. The centers provide recreational facilities, reading rooms, writing rooms, and canteens, but all of these to one end—that men will come to know Christ as their personal Saviour. An average of 3,687 men attend each center every month and statistics and personal experiences prove that an average of 69 men are saved monthly in each center. This means that every 30 days 110,610 men enter our Christian centers. Of that number, 2,070 men find Christ as their own personal Saviour. This is not a momentary touch of evangelism from which the convert is permitted to slip and soon afterward his Christian life be snuffed out by the enemy. A man that is brought to Christ in one of our service centers is immediately entered in our directory. He receives communication from the local center where he has been led to Christ. Encouraging correspondence from the Servicemen's Department goes to him immediately. Also, the local pastor in his home town is informed of the decision he has made and is requested to send further encouraging communication.

Regardless of where a serviceman is or how long he may serve Uncle Sam, the Servicemen's Department will follow him by correspondence and supply him with literature; personal contacts will be established wherever possible. Our tremendously growing volume of correspondence with these men indicates their growth in Christian life. Hundreds of requests for Bible Study Courses predict that when the war is over our Bible schools will have to enlarge their dormitory facilities and teaching staff to accommodate the G.I.'s who even now plan to enter full-time ministry and missionary service when Uncle Sam no longer requires them.

Occasionally there are urgent cases which receive 1A priority in the office



The Canteen — A Busy and Popular Part of the Service Center. Everything Served Free.

of the Servicemen's Department. For instance, the case of Oscar Ness. It was quite apparent that here was a young man desperately in need of God. And our task was to see to it that he was saved without a moment's delay. His letter was received about noon. Within four hours our local pastor, Reverend Guy Phillips, more than a thousand miles away, had been enlisted for the task. The next afternoon, Brother Phillips' telegram informed us of the victory, "OBJECTIVE REACHED MISSION ACCOMPLISHED PVT. OSCAR NESS GLORIOUSLY CONVERTED."

Any overseas inquiries for salvation receive 1A priority. Instructions as to how to find Christ are sped by airmail to France, Belgium, Italy, India, and the isles of the Pacific, urging the inquiring serviceman to accept Christ without delay. A number of trained workers in various areas of the country devote their time to ministry within the camps, contacting newly converted men, seeking out backsliders, and pointing unsaved men to the way of the Cross. Sometimes regular evangelistic campaigns are conducted within the camp area. Thousands of wounded men have been visited in their hospital wards. Many of them have turned to Christ! Through the restricted zones of the Alaskan sector, department workers itinerate the

camps, presenting the gospel in message and song.

Serving in behalf of the local assembly, operating the world over in an all-out effort of evangelism, the Servicemen's Department last month reached 1,715,000 men with literature, 110,610 men through personal contacts in our Christian service centers, 28,000 through personal correspondence, 48,000 men through actual services and personal contacts in army camps and naval bases, making a total of 1,887,770 men reached last month through four methods of ministry. All of this with one end in view—to reach G.I. Joe, to get him saved, and keep him that way until V-Day comes!

Such a ministry has been made possible by contributions from individuals and churches, the department's only source of revenue.

This great task begun must be carried on. A letter just received from a soldier, "I am somewhere in France and the *Reveille* is the best thing a man can read over here besides the Bible. As long as I continue to read the Bible and keep on getting *Reveille* from my Christian brothers, I am well satisfied!" We, his Christian brothers, will not let him down.

Still water and still religion freeze the quickest.

Serving the Servicemen

by R. H. Moon

Chairman of the Board of Directors of Victory Service Center, Inc.

In the two units of the Victory Service Center, located in Oakland, God has given the Assemblies of God in Northern California and Nevada a matchless opportunity of contacting service personnel for His Son. We wish to stress the fact that this is not exclusively an East Bay enterprise. It is something in which our entire constituency may share—both in service rendered, and rewards won. This is evidenced by the fact that our District officiary is serving on the board that directs both units.

However, God has so arranged it that the Victory Service Center is located in Oakland. This is providential. We are informed that it is through this port that more service personnel pass than through any other port on the Pacific coast. They come to us from all over the United States, and like Abraham of old, they know not whither they are going. It is such a joy to pray with these lonesome, homesick mothers' boys and girls, and to keep them out of the hell holes that infest every port city. How one rejoices to see these impressionable youth go forth with Christ in their hearts, a shine on their faces, and a Testament in their pockets, instead of a package of cigarettes.

Do they hold? Well, some of them fall, but they have a witness given to them that the Spirit will call to their minds in the time of need out there somewhere. Yes, it is far better to have tried to help them than not to have tried at all. But you should read the letters that they write back to us. And what shall we say of the grateful wives, mothers and sweethearts back home, who write us and thank us for helping their boys and girls, and to tell us that

they are praying for us. Sometimes, too, they send us a little money, although we are very careful not to mention money. We stress the fact that through your generosity all our services are free.

Then there is that army of disillusioned, shattered boys who come back. Blinded, limbs gone, nerves shaken, sometimes mental wrecks, mere shadows of the robust fellows that went out. These dear ones need the touch of love and compassion. Uncle Sam does all he can for them, but after all it is the personal touch that counts. How sweet it is to be Good Samaritan to such as these. They need us then. How they do reach out to us with everything within them longing for help. It is blessed then to know that you have One to tell them of, Who can help, and Who never fails. Does it pay? Yes, here is part of the great world-wide revival we have been praying for. As of old, they went out from Jerusalem everywhere preaching the gospel, so these go everywhere telling the story of His redeeming love. Some of them expect to return to the scene of their warfare as soldiers of the Cross, and, as missionaries, preach Christ to the natives. It pays! Try it once and see.

While we around the bay are close at hand to pitch in and work, yet we feel that you out in the District, will hold up our hands with prayer and finances. We should be so glad to have you drop in on us from time to time. How about arranging a day when you, and your assembly, can come to the Victory Service Center, provide the lunches, and conduct the spiritual program for the day?

Our Utmost for Him
(Verses written by request)

*Thousands of our men, heroic,
Face on foreign fields their foes;
Some each day must die in battle,
While the mounting fury grows;
There the falling bombs are bursting,
And the shrapnel rends the air:
'Tis to save the cause of freedom
Men for us are fighting there.*

*Willing they to shed their life blood,
Willing they to bleed and die!—
Hark! I hear the voice of weeping!
'Tis a wife's—a widow's cry!
Somewhere on a field of battle
Fell her husband, faithful, true,
And the news has just now reached her,
Just now reached his mother too.*

*Standing there that noble mother,
With the love light in her face,
Comfort speaks: "He was a Christian,
Saved from sin through matchless grace;
And he told me ere he left us,
Told me as he said good-bye:
'If I fall in battle, Mother,
As a Christian I shall die.'*

*"He was saved from sin, my daughter,
And we'll meet him someday where
No more sounds the din of battle,
And no bomb bursts rend the air.
Let us thank the God of heaven
That his soul beyond the strife
Rests forever in the love care
Of the Prince of Peace and Life."*

*And that widow ceased her weeping:
"We'll devote our lives," said she,
"To that Christ who died to save us,
Died for him, and you, and me;
We will do our utmost, Mother,
For his comrades, still in arms,
And we'll tell them of the Saviour,
Introduce them to His charms."*

*May God richly bless our soldiers,
And our sailors, and marines,
In the home land, in the south seas,
Europe, and the Philippines!
May He bless them with His blessing,
Save and keep their souls from sin!—
Help us, Lord, to do our utmost
These for Thee and heaven to win!*

— J. Narver Gortner.

Left:
A group from Bethel
Tabernacle, Oakland, at
The Christian Home on
Sunday afternoon.

Right:
Some of Our Guests
on the front steps of
the Christian Home



Our Victory Service Center

by IRVING F. FORD

The Victory Service Center located at 226-14th Street in Oakland is the second unit for members of the armed forces in Northern California under the Servicemen's Department of the Gospel Publishing House at Springfield. It is appropriate that Oakland should be chosen for this center for this area reportedly has the largest movement of troops of any in the entire country.

Beautifully situated on Lake Merritt, located at 108 Lake Street, is the first unit, the Christian Home, which has been operated locally by a group of churches in co-operation with the Christian Service Foundation for the past eight months. It has recently been included in the program of the Servicemen's Department which has a large and expanding program with the aim and purpose of reaching as many servicemen as possible with the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Altogether something over twenty-five centers and homes in America and abroad are operating under this department.

The Victory Service Center and the Christian Home are under the direct supervision of a board of directors of which pastor R. H. Moon is chairman, and includes District Superintendent W. T. Gaston, District Secretary-Treasurer R. J. Thurmond as treasurer, District C. A. President Robert Carrington, Presbyter R. A. Wilson, Pastor Eleanor

M. Johnson as secretary, Pastor C. F. Ferguson as chairman of the finance committee, Mr. T. E. Sibert, as chairman of the purchasing committee, and Pastors E. Wm. Anderson, C. Ely Persing, and Irving F. Ford.

An Advisory Council has also been set up consisting of the pastors of the East Bay section, and one lay delegate from each church. The directors of the Center and the Home are chosen by the Servicemen's Department and ratified by the Board of Directors.

Brother Thomas Ming of Southern California, until very recently, has been the director of the Center, when it was undergoing the remodeling and during the period of development. He and Sister Ming worked hard carrying on in the midst of remodeling and change and before the system of workers committees from the churches was organized to shoulder some of the load. They have left to take a well-earned rest after three years of continual service among servicemen, having been, prior to his full-time service in this type of work, the pastor of our church close to Camp Roberts where he was very active in reaching the boys with the gospel message, and had the joy of seeing many of them won to the Lord.

Brother Watson T. Moore, director of the Christian Home since its inception, has just left to take up the work to



Left—Harry Myers of the Servicemen's Department, Springfield, Mo., and

Right—Warrant Officer D. Hundsdoerfer, an active Christian serviceman.

which he has been called by the Servicemen's Department, to serve as a Field Director. Brother and Sister Moore did a fine work in developing the Home and getting the program under way. Brother Floyd B. Johnson is the new director, having commenced his work there November 10. Brother and Sister Johnson come to us from Los Angeles.

Both the Center and the Home are projects of the entire Northern California and Nevada District of the Assemblies of God. All churches and individuals are welcome to participate in this outstanding opportunity to reach thousands of service personnel through offerings and in every way possible. All offerings should be sent to the treasurer, R. J. Thurmond, 553 El Dorado Avenue, Oakland 11.

"You cannot evolve a saint out of a sinner. You may make him a refined or cultured sinner, but that is all. Every seed produces according to its kind; and to change a man's development you must change his nature."—Selected.

Pride never prepares any person for Paradise but for perdition.



The Lounge at the Service Center



Brother and Sister Ming beside the street sign at the Center.

Our Missionary Enterprise

A Word from the District Superintendent

A great door and effectual has opened to our District fellowship in the city

of Oakland, the Christian Home and the Victory Service Center — about which you see and hear so much in this issue of our District paper. Truly the time was ripe and

W. T. Gaston

overdue for this venture.

We are all agreed that the precious boys and men from all parts of our beloved America who daily crowd the streets and lanes of our port cities should have every comfort, every kindness, and every spiritual influence that is possible for us to give them. This is the time to unite in a real endeavor to win them for Christ. They are strong and brave, but facing the vicissitudes of war, they need more than devotion to country and posterity. They need the joy of sins forgiven, the assurance of personal salvation and everlasting life.

This Is So Imperative

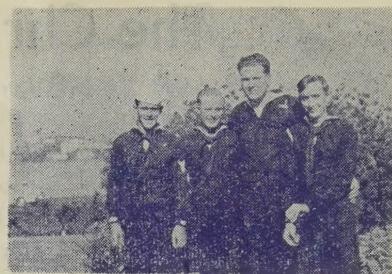
Here, then, is a great field for evangelism that must be worked now. This door is now open to us. And it is my

firm conviction that we will not falter in the crisis hour.

We give honor to our Servicemen's Department at Springfield, Mo., for taking the initiative and shouldering a big share of the initial expense involved. They are back of us and with us in prosecuting this vision to the end. It is their expectation, however, that this District will provide all the funds and carry on the work under its own board of management.

Honor is due also to the pastors and churches of the East Bay area for their leadership and spirit of sacrifice in this timely undertaking. They have put much hard work and hard cash into this "work of faith and labor of love." They are fully committed to carry on after this fashion until this war crisis is over and the men are back in their homes.

The task before us is great. The opportunity and its attendant responsibility are ours together. I am perfectly aware that it is not my province to commit the fellowship to any financial program. I did express confidence, however, that our people throughout the District would be happy to share in this ministry. As your District Superintendent I heartily commend this work to your earnest prayers and systematic giving till the boys come home.



Christian Servicemen. Some have served as acting chaplain on board their ships not rating a chaplain.

Christian Foundation, Inc.

The question has been asked many times, "What is the Christian Foundation, Inc., and what is its purpose?"

Some years ago two men in business decided to give God a portion of the profit in their business to further God's program in foreign missions, missions for the down-and-out, and programs that would bring glory to God and hasten the return of Christ. As time went on their business grew rapidly and other business men became interested, and they met occasionally as a group. It was at one of these meetings that the plan of forming a non-profit corporation to handle and dispose of these moneys was discussed and acted upon. Thus the beginning of the Foundation which was incorporated under the California state laws.

It is not the Foundation's plan to operate any enterprise, but to sponsor different works of faith, to inaugurate and maintain home missions, to inaugurate and maintain foreign missions, to teach personal evangelism, to encourage and conduct personal evangelism on the street and platform and in institutions, to publish Christian books and literature, to conduct radio evangelism, to conduct Christian services for the armed forces, and, in some cases, to start a work that will honor God and then turn it over to responsible Christian workers for operation by faith.

The foregoing is taken from the Article of Incorporation of the Foundation. The Foundation is incorporated with a president, secretary, and treasurer, and seven directors, some from northern and some from southern California.

We covet your prayers that what God has started will be directed in a wise businesslike manner at all times.

—H. W. HILTS.

The Christian Home

by WATSON T. MOORE

The Christian Home, located at 108 Lake Street in Oakland was leased March 15, 1944, and was formally opened and dedicated April 15, after a month of work on the part of ourselves and volunteer workers, in painting, fixing, rearranging, and furnishing.

It provides a real Christian home for servicemen who cannot visit their own homes. Clean beds with fresh clean linen are provided for from 40 to 50 men, and good home-cooked meals are furnished to all that come in at meal time. Also good books, magazines, and writing materials are furnished at all times in the solarium overlooking beautiful Lake Merritt. No charge is ever made for anything in the Home. To the present time (November 1) over 1100 servicemen and women have filled out prayer cards, and either professed or reaffirmed Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.

Many Christian boys have been



Brother and Sister Moore in the office of the Christian Home with some of the boys.

trained in the Home as personal workers, and are now carrying the blessed gospel to their comrades in the Pacific. Some are acting chaplains on board their ships which are not large enough to rate a chaplain.

This home is carrying on its great work here in the Bay area because of the vision God gave Mrs. Moore and me when we came here last November, and in answer to the prayers and sacrifices of men like T. C. Sibert, G. P. Duffield, and Pastors R. H. Moon, H. S. Lehmann, Eleanor Johnson, E. Wm. Anders, Irving F. Ford, and many others. Miss Mary Lou Miller, whom God

called into full-time work here, and who was here with us for some months until she went to C. B. I., was also faithful in prayer and sacrifices.

We spent much time in looking for a suitable location, but none seemed just what we were looking for. I made a business call on the American Red Cross, which then occupied this Home, and immediately noted the perfect location, facilities, and so on, for a servicemen's home. We prayed much about it, but since it was already occupied, there seemed little hope. However, a few weeks later our real estate broker called us and said the property was vacant, but that no one could be found to represent the estate, who could lease it. It was then that Brother T. C. Sibert, who had been standing with us, had his attorney start to work to secure a lease. Needless to say, God overcame every obstacle, and he secured a lease for three years.

Then came the enormous task of securing furniture, painting, cleaning woodwork, and countless other tasks. When I look back upon them all, I can only stand and marvel at what the Lord has done. Praise His wonderful name!

Satan fought so hard on every hand that at times I was almost ready to quit, yet God always overruled to give us the victory.

We endeavored at all times to keep the policy of the Home true to the



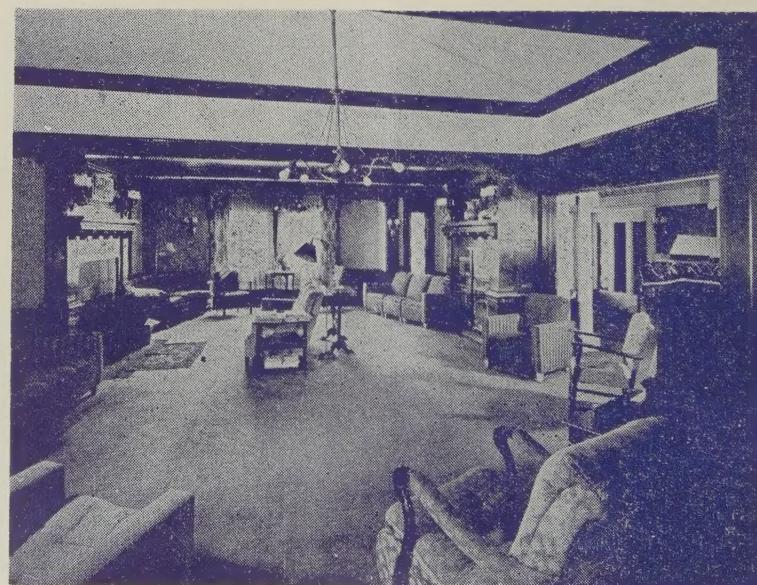
Brother and Sister Moore and Brother Duffield on the front lawn of the Home with two of the boys.

vision God gave us. That it was not to be a center or dormitory to bring the masses through, but a real Christian home where homesick boys could come for help and comfort, where boys on their last liberty before sailing could come and pray and find the reality of a know-so salvation, where they could find a Mother and a Dad in whom they could confide. "I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision." (Acts 26:19).

Now as our Servicemen's Department at Springfield takes over the sponsorship of the Home with the co-operation of the brethren of the District, pray that God will continue to bless and that the work will be a blessing to thousands of servicemen before the close of the war.

We can never have power until we are implicitly obedient to all that we know of God's will regarding our own personal lives.

The Spacious Living Room of the Home.



A Vital and Immediate Need

by C. F. FERGUSON Chairman of Finance.

Every American civilian wants to show our servicemen that in this war we on the home front are just as ready to do our part as the men and women in uniform. There is just this difference between loyal Americans in the service and those out of the service of the country: those in the service perform their duties willingly under regulation and authority; those of us out of the service are just as willing to perform our duties, but we must act upon our own initiative since we have no central authority regulating our duties.

Every civilian should feel a deep sense of indebtedness to those in uniform defending our beloved country with their very lives. There must be immediate action upon the part of our churches in providing adequate finance to reach our boys and girls with the gospel before they are shipped out, and to minister to all who pass our way, through the facilities of the Victory Service Center and The Christian Home.

Americans are the most liberal people on earth. Christians, the most liberal Americans, and Pentecostal folk are the most liberal of all American Christians. So appealing to the Assembly of God people to support the splendid servicemen's work in Oakland, one of the nation's great ports of embarkation and centers for overseas hospitalization, is a delightful assignment, indeed, especially since other writers have, in this servicemen's edition of *Glad Tidings*, portrayed the unchallengeable worth and character of this indispensable work we are asking you to help us carry on.

In setting before you the financial interests of the Victory Service Center, Inc., I am bringing to you both the Christian Home and the Victory Service Center. These Assembly of God institutions are meeting SPIRITUAL AND HUMANITARIAN needs of hundreds of our service personnel daily.



C. F. Ferguson

Such a program calls for no small expenditure of effort and money. But it is a wartime responsibility which we dare not slight.

One thousand dollars per unit per month is required. This means that our daily expenses NOW are \$66.66, a monthly budget of \$2,000 which may have to be increased as the work develops. This work not only deserves, but cannot continue without, your regular support. The Servicemen's Department at Springfield, Mo., has advanced money to help us begin operations, and they pay certain items such as the lease on our buildings, for instance. But it is up to us in this District to carry the main financial load. We are well able to do it. Please do not delay sending your offering. Some monthly support is now being received from the Christian Service Foundation, an organization of Oakland businessmen, and from a few Assemblies of God churches who have caught the vision. Individual contributions are acceptable, but we prefer that such be made through a church where convenient to do so, for churches will be given missionary credit for amounts given to Servicemen's work.

Send all offerings to R. J. Thurmond, 553 El Dorado Avenue, Oakland 11.

Too many are trying to shine for Jesus without burning for Him.

The wings of prayer can carry you where the serpent of sin cannot crawl.



The First Wedding in the Christian Home was a great event. Storekeeper 2/c Alan Swift and his bride, and the bridal party are shown in the living room of the Home where the ceremony was conducted.

Christmas Greetings

Though this issue of GLAD TIDINGS is devoted to Servicemen's work, this, being the holiday season, we want to wish you all a very blessed Christmas. May the light from the star that led the wise men, shine upon you in heavenly blessing.

W.T. Gaston, Superintendent
R. J. Thurmond, Sec.-Treas.
Marjorie Maddocks, Asst. Ed.

W.M.C. Activities in Servicemen's Work

There is a real opportunity for the Women's Missionary Council to help make the servicemen feel welcome at the Victory Service Center and also at the Christian Home. The Glad Tidings Temple W.M.C. has been taking over the Monday evening activities at the Center bringing home-made pies, cookies, cakes, and sandwiches for their physical comfort and enjoyment, and giving them the Word of Life for spiritual uplift. The older women who have been "fishing" at Glad Tidings Temple these many years find their experience invaluable in "button-holing" the boys on the street and bringing them to the Center in carloads for the good things prepared, and no opportunity is lost to encourage them to accept Christ. Home-sick boys, many on their last leave, welcome a motherly interest in their souls' needs.

The Eastbay District W.M.C. groups are also taking an active interest through their individual churches.

There is a need now for dish towels, dish cloths, aprons, hand towels, bath towels, sheets, and pillow cases, things that groups other than those around the bay can help supply. That would provide an opportunity for all of us to have a part in this good work.

Put the Center and the Home on your prayer list, and remember the servicemen's work in the planning of your work and giving. Be assured that there is a real need and a real opportunity to support and help a great cause that is active in soul-winning.

—MRS. R. J. THURMOND.

A Report From the Center

by VICTOR A. SANDERSON
Servicemen's Dept. Field Representative



Since the Center was formally opened and dedicated on October 16 (many had been served during the remodeling and renovating period) a great number of service boys have visited us and been served both temporally and spiritually. The work was done by the Directors and the volunteers who come from the churches both in the Eastbay area and San Francisco.

Besides pies, cakes, cookies, and sandwiches provided by the ladies of the churches who are the *hosts* for the evening, doughnuts and coffee or milk, or both if desired, are served at the canteen. From October 16 to November 12, it is figured that 4,050 boys attended the Center. One hundred fifty of them knelt in prayer to give their hearts to God, some were saved and some reclaimed, but all were serious with God and testified to salvation. Four hundred thirty-two pots of coffee were made and served, and 1296 doughnuts served, this in addition to the unnumbered pies, cakes, and cookies, and sandwiches.

Two boys from the Oakland Casualty Hospital attended the Center up until a week ago. After coming in many times they finally asked what it was we had, for every time they came in they felt such a wonderful spirit and atmosphere. They gave their hearts to God, and were shipped out the next day.

Many backsliders have taken a new stand for God. They desire the prayers of God's people that they will stay true.

God is blessing the testimonies of the saved boys as they come and witness to the other boys in the Center. Many times our chapel has been filled with boys, and at the close of the service the altar is lined with hungry hearts desiring

something real. Thank God we are able to tell them Christ is real and has a real experience for them, and many leave with a genuine experience of sins forgiven.

We have had many girls who are in the service come and had them tell us that they enjoyed the clean wholesome atmosphere. They have remarked that they feel right at home even though there are more boys than girls. The servicemen recognize the Christian

spirit, and they are gentlemen.

The churches of the Eastbay and San Francisco have treated the service people royally, bringing all kinds of homemade pies, cakes and fancy sandwiches. Some were so fancy that the boys wanted to know what they were.

We are happy to tell all who come to our Center that the Assemblies of God is sponsoring this work and that everything is free for our boys and girls in the service. This is a real missionary work, and God is giving us souls. We are all workers together for Him; it is only as you help us with your prayers and support that we can continue on every day from 2:00 p.m. until midnight.

A Great Door and Effectual

—EARLE V. JENNISON, Director.

"A great door and effectual is opened unto me." A missionary enthusiast of the first century wrote these words to the church at Corinth. He was a man of spiritual vision and vigor.

Today we say in his words, "A great door and effectual is opened to us." A door of great opportunity and unlimited possibilities stands open for God's people today who have the missionary vision for the salvation of our servicemen and women. And here on the West Coast, at one of the most strategic spots in the whole country during the present stage of the war, is our Victory Service Center in Oakland. Many thousands of sailors, soldiers and marines passing constantly in and out are making the streets of this city a veritable beehive. Needless to say, most of them are far from home and families, and many of them are homesick or lonesome.

A card from a worker's hand or a word of direction by a policeman or, perhaps, that red, white and blue neon sign that looms up out in front of the center every night of the year until midnight, informs that home-hungry or kindness-hungry fellow of the cheery welcome to the comfortable lounge and the good coffee or milk, sandwich or cake or do-nuts at the canteen. Though this place is quite new there has been an average of from ten to twelve hundred servicemen and women per week who have entered our doors and practically every day several are being saved.

We take these significant words from the Apostle's second letter to the Corinthians, "We then as workers together with Him," etc. It has been only by the sacrifice and prayers through months of planning and giving on the part of pastors, workers and churches throughout the Bay area and in cooperation with the Servicemen's Department at Springfield, Missouri, that such gratifying results have been made possible. To carry on this type of work and reach many hundreds of these fellows for Christ it is important that we all co-ordinate our prayers and our efforts. The lovely spirit of fellowship and helpfulness expressed by the various church groups who have taken over the "battle stations" on their respective evenings throughout each week has been an occasion of rejoicing and praise to God.

It is the Director's purpose at the



Brother and Sister Jennison at the door of the Center.

earliest possible date to contact, either by letter, telephone or in person, each pastor of the churches which are in practical driving distance of the Center, regarding an appointment for an evening of service. Let us all understand clearly that this is not Oakland's Victory Service Center, it is our Service Center if we live anywhere in Northern or Central California. And regardless of whether you are forty miles from here or four hundred miles you can enjoy a part in the work of winning many precious souls to Christ through this wonderful channel. It is a big job, much bigger than many would suspect who may not have had opportunity to observe the various activities required for operating a Center of this sort. But the consciousness of being "workers together with God" Himself brings joy to the hearts of all who are engaged in this work. Each pastor who has cooperated will readily testify that it has acted like a spiritual stimulant, like a blood transfusion, as it were, to his particular group.

We have just come to the end of one of the most successful conventions ever held in our District. Every service was especially anointed with God's presence and each speaker signalized inspired to preach the word with conviction. At the end of each meeting there went forth a call to all to dedicate themselves

afresh to the Master, but the thing that so inspired everyone was the fact that, almost without exception, the servicemen in our audience were the first one to respond. This brings us directly to the point: everywhere young men in the service of their country are *hungry after God*. Oh, young people, if we could but see the deep-seated hunger in the hearts of our boys, we would do all in our power to expend every effort to win them for Him.

There are so many of our Christ's Ambassadors whose desire has been to go to some mission field and preach the unsearchable riches of Christ because they have understood that the heathen of other lands accept the gospel with open hearts and hands. They have been given to believe that all one is required to do is to give a testimony for the Lord Jesus, and by the hundreds the heathen accept. Now while all this is true, yet it is equally true that our own boys in the service everywhere have been awakened to the realization that spiritual things after all are the important things. Their hearts are open and receptive to the things of God. They are so hungry that all that is required to win them is a personal invitation and a testimony alive with reality.

I was struck by the words of our Servicemen's Director, Harry Jaeger, He said, in effect, "Twenty-five per cent of the men in the service will be good no matter what we do; twenty-five per cent will be bad in spite of all that we do, but fifty per cent will be either good or bad depending on what we do." Do



by ROBERT CARRINGTON

you see the challenge, young people? With eleven million men in the service there are five million five hundred thousand who will be saved or unsaved depending on what we do.

Here then is our opportunity. Here is an avenue of service regardless of who or what we are. Here is our chance to be real soul winners. Let us, then, wherever, whenever we meet the man in the service, do our very utmost to win him for God. Remember your word to him may be the last gospel message he will hear before he faces the shot and shell of the enemy. It may be that very last message that will cause him at the last moment to look up to God in repentance and say, "God be merciful to me a sinner." Christ's Ambassador, a soul has been put in your pathway. A life has been entrusted to you. Will you give him the word of life, or will his blood be required at thy hand?

* * * * *

The Christ's Ambassadors of this District are now contributing fifty dollars monthly to the support of the Victory Service Center and Christian Home in Oakland. We are happy for the small part we can play in carrying on this great work. As this is the greatest Home Missionary project we could have, funds that are available for this work are now being directed into those channels. We should appreciate it if local groups desiring to help toward this ministry will send their offering directly into our department and designate that the fund is to be used solely for the carrying on of evangelism among the servicemen.



An Oakland C.A. in the Park giving out invitations to the Center and Home.

Items needed for the Christian Home and Service Center. Can you help in supplying the need?

- 12 double bed sheets
- 30 single bed sheets
- 40 pillow cases
- 45 quilts for single beds
- 5 table cloths (3 yard)
- 3 dozen dish towels
- 1 dozen dish cloths
- 1 dozen aprons
- 3 dozen bath towels
- 1 dozen serving spoons
- 4 medium-size platters
- Silverware (knives, forks, and spoons)
- Dinner plates
- 2-gallon kettles
- 10-quart pots
- Pots and pans of varied sizes
- Flower vases
- Dresser scarves and doilies

If you can supply any of these and wish to give it to this good work, will you please send your gift to the District office, 553 El Dorado Ave., Oakland 11, California.

* * * * *

Farmers, friends in the country, the Christian Home can use and would be happy to receive any produce, dried fruits, or nuts, that you can send for the boys.

The Need and the Opportunity

by FLOYD B. JOHNSON



Brother and Sister Floyd B. Johnson

We are no doubt stranger to most of you, but I can assure you we are of your family tree, born of God, filled with the Spirit, and brother and sister in Christ.

We had been in charge of the John 3:16 Mission in Los Angeles for four years, and God had blessed the ministry there, but in October it seemed the time had come when God would move us on. After much prayer we felt led to close the doors though the attendance was still large, around 75 or more at each service, two services a day, and many seeking God at the altar. It was hard to understand. Then the assurance through the Scripture, "There is that scattereth and yet increaseth, and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty." Prov. 11:24. Then the call came to the Christian Home for service personnel. God's will became manifest. We also remembered that Philip was led away from the midst of a revival to take care of a special need.

Since coming here to the Christian Home we have caught the vision of this

special need which confronts every soul-burdened Christian today. As we see the boys come here, many of them hungry, but not for food, tired, but not from lack of sleep, but rather longing and hungering for the touch of home, and we know, though many of them are slow to admit it, a longing for God and the peace He brings, we rejoice that God has given us a part in His work here.

We feel that this is truly the need of the hour, reaching the servicemen before they go and as they return. The atmosphere of home, morning devotionals around the table, always including a short exposition of the Word with God's plan of salvation brought out, the time of singing gospel songs around the piano in the evening, and prayer around the fireplace, then possibly a trip to the kitchen for a "snack," all seems to do something to the boys, something that goes with them. Many voluntarily ask

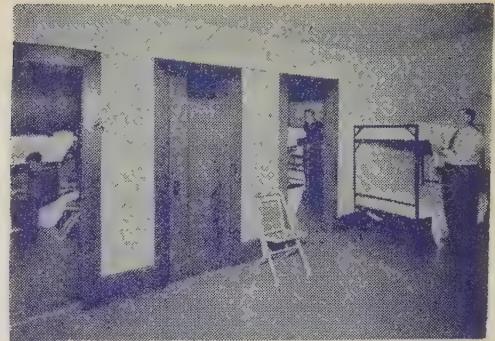


The Writing Room is in the Sun Porch facing the lake

for prayer and many are brought to know the Saviour through these things.

A chief petty officer, speaking for the boys gathered around the breakfast table as we finished our meal, said that some of them that had not been over could not realize or fully appreciate as yet all that they were receiving at the Home, however, when they are over there on "K" rations, this breakfast of bacon and eggs, the home comforts, the peace and quiet, will flood their memories and then they will fully appreciate the blessings God has given them. He also said that those who have returned are looking for rest and quiet. They are offered any amount of jazz and excitement, but so few places are provided where they can have real rest and quiet.

Our boys themselves go out and draw others in, some who already know Christ



The Sleeping Quarters in the upper part of the Home

as their personal Saviour, to be strengthened along the way, and others that know Him not, to meet and know Him here in the Home. These same boys, as our country sends them on, often-times to combat, turn over their prayer burdens and beg us to be faithful.

On Sunday afternoon, groups from the different churches come in and take charge, serving special dainties, sandwiches, and coffee to those who have come in, and they can contact them personally about their souls. Even though last week end was unusually slack due to the weather, 24 servicemen and women signed cards professing Christ as their Saviour after they had been dealt with and prayed with.

We have sleeping accommodations for fifty servicemen, and can accommodate several servicewomen or wives.

We need prayer.

Ready?

Better set your house in order!

We are headed for the dawn.

Better set your house in order!

For the night will soon be gone.

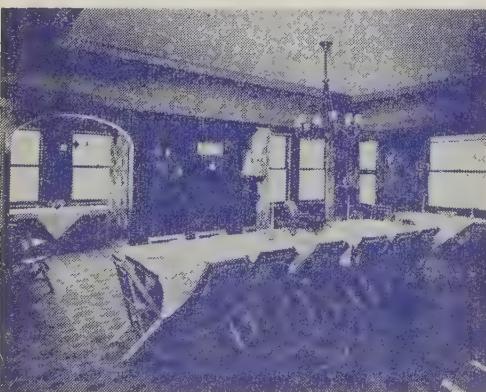
Better set your house in order!

Soon the Day Star will appear.

Better set your house in order!

His returning is so near.

The Dining Room is large with windows facing on Lake Merritt



The Prayer Room is often used. Someone is always ready to help and pray with the boys at any time.

... Little Things for God ...

"I dropped some seeds beside a path,
And went my busy way,
Till chance or fate, I say not which,
Led me one summer day
Along the selfsame path; and lo!
Some flowers blooming there,
As fair as eye hath looked upon,
And sweet as they were fair."

"I dropped a sympathetic word
Nor stayed to watch it grow,
For little tending's needed when
The seed is good we sow;
But once I met the man again,
And by the gladsome way
He took my hand, I knew I sowed
The best of seed that day."



Servicemen Alan Swift and W. C. Lee.
Woodie was our photographer.

Apart from Thee, all gain is loss,
All labor vainly done;
The solemn shadow of Thy cross
Is better than the sun.

Alone, I Love ineffable—
Thy saving name is given;
To turn aside from Thee is hell,
To walk with Thee is heaven.
—Whittier.



The First Wedding in the chapel in the Center. The former Lois Johnson, niece of T. C. Sibert, the only lay member on the Board of Directors, became the bride of George E. Tracy, Phm. 3/c. Pastor R. H. Moon officiated.

How It Came To Be

by ELEANOR M. JOHNSON
Secretary of Board of Directors.

Early this year Brother W. T. Moore came to one of our ministers' meetings and presented to us the thought of a home for servicemen. We had for months been trying to find a location in which to open a center for servicemen, but a home was a new idea to us. Some of our pastors had begun to catch

the vision of a work for servicemen in Oakland. We began to pray and look for a suitable location.

The Lord graciously worked in answer to prayer, making it possible for us to lease a house on the shores of Lake Merritt, an ideal location for such a home. In April the home was opened with Watson T. Moore as director and Mrs. Moore as house mother. God's blessing has rested on the place since preparations for its opening began. Several thousand men have passed through—many staying over night, some just for a home-cooked meal, and some staying several days. Over 11,000 have testified to being helped spiritually. Many have been saved, and many who had strayed have been brought back to a closer walk with God.

The thought of a home is all the name implies—it is a home for men far away from home and loved ones. When the Home opened we did not lose our vision for a center, but kept praying and looking for a suitable location for it. In due time the Lord opened the way, and the Victory Service Center came into being at 226 14th Street in Oakland. Brother and Sister Thomas Ming came in September to prepare the place for opening.

A comfortable homey lounge has been provided, with a canteen counter along the back where groups from our various churches serve lunches for the service personnel. In the rear is a large recreation room equipped with various games.

The most important part of the Center is the chapel where a service is held

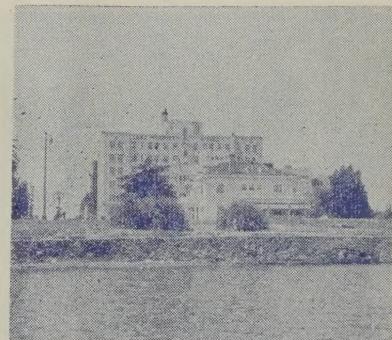
every evening, conducted by the church which is serving for the evening. Already many souls have found the Lord in this chapel. It is indeed a hallowed spot.

Pray for the men who pass through the Center, and the Home also, for the directors and all who are connected with these two works for servicemen.

In the beginning five churches and the Christian Service Foundation supported the Home. Later a board of directors was formed of local pastors and three men from the Foundation. When the Center was opened a board of directors was formed for it. In October the Servicemen's Department at Springfield sub-leased the Home as well as the Center. At that time both places were brought under one board of directors which includes our District Superintendent, District Secretary-Treasurer, the District Presbyter, District C. A. President, six local pastors, and one man from the Christian Foundation. The Home and Center work in co-operation, but each has its own director and is operated as is best suited to the need.

Churches all over the District are asked to have a part in this work, both financially and, for those near enough, with workers and refreshments. A crew of workers is needed every night in the Center. Refreshments are also needed, and workers for a chapel service. Workers and refreshments are needed at the Home on Sunday afternoons.

Again we ask you to pray for this great work where many souls are finding Christ. It is indeed a missionary work, as most of the men are reached through personal contacts.



The Home as viewed from across the lake.

I Was There

Victory Service Center, Inc., is in action, and action it is when one considers the scope of the work of the two units, the Service Center and the Christian Home. Victory Service Center, Inc., is a corporation functioning with the Servicemen's Department of our General Council in the wartime missionary and evangelistic campaign being waged among and for the lads and lassies in Uncle Sam's uniforms. Uprooted from home environment and the accustomed civilian activities and outlooks, and faced with a new life and new allurements, without the restraint of home, too often the prey of evil, these young folk with evenings they don't know where to spend and how to spend them, should be reached with the gospel of Jesus Christ. As they have been prepared physically for the job assigned them by the armed forces, they should be prepared for life, the better life, a Christian life, both now and when the war clouds are gone; and for eternity, whether they be called to it by reason of their service, or in years to come.

The Service Center offers an attractive, comfortable place for the serviceman to spend the afternoon and evening. Being located in the downtown area on 14th Street which is much traveled by the service people in their wanderings and journeyings in the city of Oakland, it is well located. The cheerful neon sign makes the presence of the Center known, as does the sidewalk sign; and often someone is stationed outside to extend a personal invitation.

When they step out of the elevator the servicemen find themselves in a

In the Game Room at the Center.
R. A. Wilson looks on.



large room comfortably furnished with divans and easy chairs, tables and writing equipment, and reading matter, all at their disposal. The appointments are homey, inducing relaxation and lending background to the welcome accorded them as they register at the desk. They are registered according to their home states. That system has caused more than one boy, by looking over the names of those of his state, to learn that a friend of his had been there a short while before, and when. That doesn't hurt a lonesome fellow's morale. Of course, still better would be to learn that he is still in town.

The visitor to the Center may go in and find boys reading, boys writing, boys eating, boys singing (hymns and spiritual songs) if the chapel service is not in progress, boys in the game room playing ping-pong, darts, Chinese checkers, or piecing together a jig-saw puzzle, all in a good clean atmosphere. Then there may be seen small groups earnestly talking, some visiting, and some being dealt with about their souls.

It is not unusual to see a little group slip into the chapel for prayer, and there the sailor lad meets His Saviour. Sometimes they don't go to the chapel; they pray right where they are. Boys who are scheduled to be shipped out the next day appreciate prayer, and in that solemn hour, their last night on the home shores for a while, their hearts are often ready to receive the Lord Jesus Christ, to get right with God, and to take with them that inward Companion. How wonderful to send them out with a New Testament in their pockets and the Lord in their hearts to face the uncertain future warfare brings.

Every evening, in the lovely little white chapel, a service is held that ends in an altar call that is responded to in varying numbers. Sometimes the group-singing around the piano in the lounge ends in an informal service as the boys' hearts are touched.

It is late when the lights are put out each night, but a good job has been done. Somebody's boy has had a good place to spend the evening, somebody's boy has met His Saviour. Some of our



Sister Briley
has served
Home Cooked
Food to many
home hungry
lads.

Pentecostal boys are able to enjoy it, too.

It was good to sit on a canteen stool talking to two of them the other evening, both of them not a hundred miles from home, both still patients in a nearby hospital, one having seen action at Bougainville and in Guam where he received the wounds that sent him to the hospital, the other having seen duty aboard ship. How grand to talk to them about the Lord. A doughnut in one hand and a cup of coffee in the other, one filled up with the blessing as we talked about the goodness of God, and we returned to the chapel. He wanted to seek the Lord again to be filled with the Holy Spirit—and wasn't far from the fullness that night. The other boy's decision is made. He is going to Bible school when he is through with service in the Navy. One from Santa Cruz, the other from Salida, our own boys, enjoying the Center. God bless them, Bob Scott and Earl McKim; and all the others who have been in, and those who are yet to come.

The Christian Home is in what was formerly the old Schillings home on Lake Merritt. It is a 31-room house being occupied from basement to attic. Its purpose is to provide a Christian home away from home for service personnel.

During the week an average of 20, mostly bluejackets, spend the night there and are given a good breakfast the next morning. Over the week end all 50 of the beds are occupied. There is also provision made for a limited number of servicemen's wives and mothers to stay when they come to the Bay area to visit the loved one in the hospital.

The large living room offers restful quiet. The solarium which is the writing room faces out on the lake, its big plate-glass windows providing a beautiful view. The dining room is ample for large tables on which good home-cooked food is served. If they care to, the boys may avail themselves of the laundry



In the
Laundry.
Not exactly
a favorite
activity.

Poem Found on Soldier

(This poem was found on a dead American soldier in Italy.)

"Look God, I have never spoken to You,
But now I want to say 'How do you do.'
You see, God, they told me You didn't exist,
And like a fool I believed all this.
Last night, from a shell hole, I saw Your sky.
I figured right then they had told me a lie.

Had I taken time to see things, You made,
I'd have known they weren't calling a spade
a spade.

I wonder, God, if You'd shake my hand,
Somehow I feel that You will understand.
Funny I had to come to this hellish place,
Before I had time to see Your face.

Well, I guess there isn't much more to say,
But, I'm sure glad, God, I met you today.
I guess the zero hour will soon be here,
But I'm not afraid since I know You're here.
The signal! Well, God, I'll have to go,
I like You lots, this I want you to know.

Look now, this will be a horrible fight,
Who knows, I may come to Your house to-
night.

Though I wasn't friendly to You before,
I wonder, God, if You'd wait at Your door.
Look, I'm crying! Me! Shedding tears!
I wish I had known You these many years.
Well, I have to go now, God, goodbye!
Strange, since I met You, I'm not afraid
to die."

Our will is not surrendered if we
are vexed when our plans are thwarted.
We must abandon ourselves completely
to the will of God.

Consecration Means All

Remember God's rule, all for all. Give
Him all. He will give you all. Consecra-
tion avails nothing unless it means
presenting yourself as a living sacrifice
to do nothing but the will of God. The
vow of entire obedience is the entrance
fee for him who would be enrolled by
no assistant teacher, but by Christ Him-
self, in the school of obedience.—An-
drew Murray.

**Statement of the Ownership, Management,
Circulation, etc., Required by the Act of
Congress of August 24, 1912,**
Of Glad Tidings published monthly at St. Helena,
California for October 1944.
State of California } ss.
County of Napa }

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared R. J. Thurmond, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the Glad Tidings and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher Northern California and Nevada District Council of the Assemblies of God, Inc. Box 393, St. Helena, California.

Editor W. T. Gaston, 5200 Coronado Ave., Oakland 9, California.

Asst. Editor Marjorie Maddocks, Box 393, St. Helena, California.

Business Manager R. J. Thurmond, 553 El Dorado Ave., Oakland 11, California.

2. That the owners are: (Give names and addresses of individual owners, or, if a corporation, give its name and the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of stock.)

Northern California and Nevada District Council of the Assemblies of God, Inc.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.)

None

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the six months preceding the date shown above is (This information is required from daily publications only.)

R. J. THURMOND,
Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 25th day of September 1944.

(SEAL) W. P. BLAKE.

(My commission expires January 27, 1945.)

The Weeping Babe

In Bethlehem, where radiant light
Shone from a star on high,
The wise men from the ancient East
Heard Mary's infant cry.

He who had stood in heaven's courts
As one adored and praised,
Had come to suffer for mankind,

And on a cross be raised.
He who had known the Father's smile,
Must face Jehovah's frown;
He who had known eternal joys,
To earthly woes came down.
His infant cries were tokens that
He had assumed our woes —
Had come to lead us back to God
Where life's fair river flows.

facilities. They may lounge around, read, play the piano, sing, sleep, whatever they want to do—it is home.

The boys participate in devotions at the breakfast table in the morning and by the fireside at night in the living room. A prayer room downstairs has been well used, a good number having found the Lord there, and many go there with their burdens to pray alone.

How many will rise up to call the work of Victory Service Center, Inc., blessed, is not known now; but eternity will reveal the true results.

The boys thus contacted are not lost track of, but the Servicemen's Department in Springfield writes to them and sends *Reveille* and other Christian literature to them regularly wherever they may be sent, anywhere in the world.

—M. M.

GLAD TIDINGS

The Official Organ of the
Northern California and Nevada District
Council of the Assemblies of God, Inc.

P. O. Box 393
St. Helena, Calif.

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MARJORIE MADDOCKS Assistant Editor
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Helena, California.

Let Us Pray and Work and Give NOW!

On every battle front of every war zone are men from the family circles of our own homes—our Christian youth, our unsaved sons. The responsibility for their spiritual welfare belongs to every church and every Christian home. We want to see them return spiritually strong—we must see that they do.

The Servicemen's Department has been established to bridge the gap between you and your servicemen. Depending entirely on your prayers and support, it is being carried on at an expense of \$200 every 24 hours just to supply the servicemen's paper, *Reveille*, alone. In addition to this, there are the heavy expenses involved in corresponding monthly with thousands of the boys, and maintaining workers on the field establishing Service Centers, visiting hospitals and barracks, or any gathering of servicemen, carrying the gospel to the boys in uniform.

That is the over-all program of the Service Department as it now exists. There are plans and hopes for its steady growth that its ministry may reach further and further among the service personnel.

We have long prayed for a revival, and we believe that it is coming, but shall we miss a share in this great opportunity for evangelism among the youth of our land? They need the gospel, and we need the joys and responsibilities of seeing that they get it.

Our own local program is maintained with a budget of \$2,000.00 per month, yet we are but a part of a great work being done for God.

Let us pray together, work together, and give together, for the promotion of this great campaign for God and souls.

Peace on Earth . . .

Peace on earth—with nations warring,
Man his brother's blood outpouring?
Long ago came Peace to earth
With the Lord Christ Jesus' birth;
God's goodwill to foe and stranger
Lay in Bethlehem's humble manger;
Earth wove thorns to crown His head:
Now she weeps, her Peace is fled.
Peace on earth—beset with sorrows,
Dark todays and darker morrows?
Still comes Jesus through the gloom
Seeking who will give Him room;
Earth may shudder with disaster:
Peace abounds where Christ is Master,
And where hearts will give Him birth
Men may yet know peace on earth.

Victory Service Centers Are Meeting the Needs—providing a place of fellowship for our Christian men and reaching the unsaved for Christ. A number of centers have been established, but far too few for the present emergency.

Field Workers representing the Servicemen's Department are giving full time to ministry in military areas—visiting camps and hospitals, conducting evangelistic services, making personal contacts, distributing Testaments and literature.

The Servicemen's Directory Is Bridging the Gap, enabling us to maintain constant contact with our men through regular correspondence, gospel literature, Bible study courses, and personal help from our field workers. We can not help your sons or daughters unless we have their names in our directory.

Reveille Is Producing Results. Approved by the War Department, this red, white and blue bulletin written in GI language is reaching millions of servicemen, whether in camp or hospital, on the high seas, on remote islands or invasion front. Thousands are finding Christ and Christian fellows everywhere are being encouraged through the reading of *REVEILLE*.

—SERVICEMEN'S DEPARTMENT, GOSPEL PUBLISHING HOUSE, SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI.



Under Two Flags

By an Unknown Sergeant
My rifle hangs by my bedside
My uniform's folded nearby
The stillness of night surrounds me
My buddies sleep, but not I.

You see I just woke from dreaming
Of the friendly faces back home
And I see with bitter perspective
The value of things I have known.

I see my old home on the hillside
I see my dear mother and dad
My sister and brothers, the old back yard
I think of the good times we had.

I see the church were I used to go,
I see it as plainly as day;
I remember the singing and preaching,
How my folks would earnestly pray.

One other thing I remember
Of that church where I used to go
The flags that flanked that altar
Reflecting our hearts' bright glow.

The Old Stars and Stripes proudly stood
Proclaiming the wonderful truth
That we live in a land of freedom
Of hope and a chance for youth.

Through the other flag no stripes displays
It will lead me beyond them some day
The flag of the cross—the blood-stained cross
The flag of the Bible way.

And now as I lie on my Army bunk
Far from the things I once knew
Cross, crown and stripes on those flags displayed
Still fly o'er me in the blue.

"Keep 'em flying," I whisper the words
The cross and the red, white and blue
And to sleep I go wtih a smiling face
Two flags, one duty—"be true."

The things that I love are far away
The future uncertain and dim
But a soldier I am of two armies—
Of my country, and also of Him.